

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

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SENATE BILL 567

Short Title: Initiatives to Close the Achievement Gap. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Lucas; Berger of Franklin, Dannelly, Dorsett, Holloman, and Malone.

Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget.

March 16, 2005

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO CONTINUE THE WORK AND
3 OPERATIONS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA HISTORICALLY MINORITY
4 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES CONSORTIUM TO DEVELOP,
5 IMPLEMENT, AND MANAGE COMMUNITY PROGRAMS TO CLOSE THE
6 ACHIEVEMENT GAP AND TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES
7 TO DISSEMINATE AND REPLICATE THESE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES
8 ACROSS THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

9 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

10 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of
11 Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of three hundred fifty thousand
12 dollars (\$350,000) for the 2005-2006 fiscal year and the sum of three hundred fifty
13 thousand dollars (\$350,000) for the 2006-2007 fiscal year to continue to support the
14 operations and work of the North Carolina Historically Minority Colleges and
15 Universities Consortium to close the education achievement gap in accordance with
16 Section 8.28 of S.L. 2000-67. It is the intent of the General Assembly to appropriate
17 funds for this purpose for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

18 The Historically Minority Colleges and Universities Consortium shall
19 continue its work as provided in Section 8.28(i) of S.L. 2000-67 to determine the best
20 practices and methodologies for closing the achievement gap among children of various
21 demographic groups who are performing below grade level. The consortium shall work
22 with rural and low-wealth communities to replicate at least six community-based
23 programs.

24 The State Board of Education and the Research Council of the Education
25 Cabinet shall make an interim report regarding its findings and recommendations to the
26 Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by March of each year, and shall
27 make a final report by March 15, 2010, to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight
28 Committee.

1 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of
2 Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of one hundred fifty thousand
3 dollars (\$150,000) for the 2005-2006 fiscal year. These funds shall be used by the
4 Historically Minority Colleges and Universities Consortium to fund the implementation
5 of a study to examine and profile the history of organized education for American
6 Indians and African Americans in North Carolina, as recommended in The North
7 Carolina Commission on Raising Achievement and Closing Gap's Final Report to the
8 State Board of Education. In the course of the study, the Consortium shall:

- 9 (1) Analyze the strengths and weaknesses of the school environment on
10 the education of African American and American Indian youth prior to
11 school desegregation in North Carolina and during the decades that
12 followed.
- 13 (2) Identify best practices and models that impact achievement of minority
14 students including school, home, and community.
- 15 (3) Develop strategies for using the findings from the study to influence
16 school policy changes at the local and State levels to improve the
17 school environment and academic achievement of African American
18 and American Indian youth.
- 19 (4) Design a training model for community parents, teachers, and
20 administrators based on best practices found in research.
- 21 (5) Work with the State to infuse best practices and key research findings
22 into school curricula and policy guidelines for all local school
23 administrative units throughout the State.

24 The State Board of Education and the Research Council of the Education
25 Cabinet shall make an interim report regarding the findings of the study and their
26 recommendations to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by March 1,
27 2006, and shall make a final report by July 1, 2006, to the Joint Legislative Education
28 Oversight Committee.

29 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2005.